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assured. The possibility of growing Virginia-type tobaccos should also be explored.

Orchards and Vineyards

Vineyards and orchard crops such as olives, nuts, apricots and other fruits already make an important contribution to agricultural income. Both the quality and the yield could be substantially raised by proper insect control, the use of fertilizers and tracer elements, and better pruning. Many existing orchards need rejuvenation. Heavy frosts in 1949-50 severely damaged olive orchards around Aleppo, so that Syria is now on a net import basis for olive oil. Establishment of vineyards and orchards in the Djebel Druze would help materially to raise the present low level of income in that region. In Latakia province the cultivation of citrus could be significantly increased. The availability of ample long-term credit at low interest rates is especially important for an expansion and rejuvenation of orchards and vineyards.

Vegetables

Vegetable growing in wide variety is concentrated in and around the larger population centers. The fact that so little is grown and consumed in the rural areas is due mainly to the fact that neither the small farmer nor the majority of consumers yet knows the value of a balanced diet; on the contrary, both hold vegetable cultivation in low esteem. Education and guidance centered upon the establishment of school gardens might do much to change this attitude.

The significant quantity of vegetables at present used by the local canning industry could easily be doubled though, as the canners explained to the mission, the poor quality of vegetables in general, and of peas and beans in particular, tends to limit the quantity suitable for processing. Better seed, improved cultural practices and adequate insect control measures could contribute greatly to higher quality and quantity. Improved transport, storage and marketing facilities should be included in community and cooperative development schemes, thus opening up possibilities for more exports and a very substantial increase in the activity of the local canning industry which at present produces about 4,000 tons of canned goods.

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In view of the desirability of increasing the role of vegetables in the Syrian diet and of their potential as a domestic and export cash crop, governmental stimulus would be of great benefit.

v ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The problem of raising the production and quality of livestock has been comparatively neglected. Inadequate nutrition, high incidence of disease and mortality, and poor breeding all depress livestock yields far below what they should be. Livestock now accounts for less than 20% of the total contribution made by agriculture and animal husbandry to national income. This contribution to national income could undoubtedly be raised substantially because the possibilities for improvement in animal husbandry practices are vast and the demand for livestock products both at home and abroad is likely to increase more than proportionately as standards of living rise.

Better nutrition, control of disease and breeding are all necessary. Of the three, improvement in nutrition is by far the most important. Irrespective of breed, an animal will not be productive unless it is well fed. In fact the genetic factors in any breed cannot be fully developed and appraised unless nutrition is adequate. Similarly, low nutritional standards inevitably lower the resistance of livestock to disease and limit the effectiveness of control measures.

Migratory Livestock

Over 80% of the livestock other than fowl consist of sheep and goats, and most of these are taken by Bedouins on annual migrations into the Syrian desert or steppe for grazing. The available vegetation is sparse and of short duration. As is usual under desert or semi-desert conditions, there is generally overgrazing in the areas close to permanent water supplies, and the poorer the season—in terms of rainfall—the heavier will be the concentration on such areas. During severe winters when winter growth ceases at an early stage and when the herbage may be destroyed by early frosts, there is a high mortality rate from the combined effects of malnutrition, helminthiasis and exposure.

It has been suggested that much of the mortality could be avoided by

PRODUCTION

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مساحات ومحاصيل اهم انواع الخضار ١٩٥١/١٩٥٠ — ١٩٥٢/١٩٥٣
(المساحة بالهكتار والمحصول بالطن)

AREA AND PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL VEGETABLES, 1950/51 — 1952/53.
(Area in hectars, produce in tons)

Table No. 5

جدول رقم ٥

Vegetables	١٩٥١/١٩٥٠ 1950/1951		١٩٥٢/١٩٥١ 1951/1952		١٩٥٣/١٩٥٢ 1952/1953		النوع
	المساحة Area	المحصول Produce	المساحة Area	المحصول Produce	المساحة Area	المحصول Produce	
Potatoes	3,687	36,615	3,887	38,226	3,058	32,294	بطاطا
Garlic	1,144	4,548	966	4,018	1,185	4,326	ثوم
Onions	4,043	39,745	4,169	33,135	4,454	36,830	بصل
Onion seeds	228	388	202	52	210	42	بادرون
Onion sets	635	1,136	721	2,299	749	3,667	فرح
Tomatoes	6,338	67,438	7,655	68,733	8,841	71,038	بندورة
Eggplant	2,742	34,995	3,670	34,905	3,728	28,403	باذنجان

مساحات ومحاصيل النباتات الصناعية ١٩٥١/١٩٥٠ — ١٩٥٢/١٩٥٣
(المساحة بالهكتار والمحصول بالطن)

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AREA AND PRODUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL CORPS, 1950/51 — 1952/53.
(Area in hectars, produce in tons)

Table No. 6

جدول رقم ٦

Plantation	١٩٥١/١٩٥٠ 1950/1951		١٩٥٢/١٩٥١ 1951/1952		١٩٥٣/١٩٥٢ 1952/1953		النوع
	المساحة Area	المحصول Produce	المساحة Area	المحصول Produce	المساحة Area	المحصول Produce	
Sugar cane	86	349	119	5,033	138	4,080	قصب السكر
Tobacco	4,026	4,164	3,951	3,994	2,082	1,669	تبغ
Tombac	391	381	385	362	317	253	تنباك
Cotton	217,352	62,924	180,271	58,074	127,558	46,984	قطن (شعر)
Linseed	180	180	220	220	532	533	كتان (بزر)
Hemp	3,330	3,383	4,292	4,131	4,038	2,172	قنب (الياف)
Tobacco (shak-el-bint)	3,936	3,090	3,296	2,334	3,309	2,820	تبغ شكل البنت
Sugar beet	211	2,715	2,634	55,320	4,264	49,572	الشوندر السكري